

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, lines 12-13 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--R² is selected from -H and C₁₋₆alkyl optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from ~~halogen~~, -CF₃, -OH, C₁₋₃alkoxy, and halogen; and--

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, lines 20-25 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--R¹ is selected from C₃₋₆alkyl, C₆₋₁₀aryl, C₂₋₆heteroaryl, C₆₋₁₀aryl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₆heteroaryl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl, wherein said C₃₋₆alkyl, C₆₋₁₀aryl, C₂₋₆heteroaryl, C₆₋₁₀aryl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₆heteroaryl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from C₁₋₄alkyl, ~~halogen~~, -CF₃, -OH, C₁₋₃alkoxy, phenoxy, and halogen;--

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, line 28 to page 9, line 2 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In another embodiment, the compounds of the present invention are represented by formula I, wherein R¹ is R⁹-CH₂-, wherein R⁹ is selected from phenyl, pyridyl, thienyl, furyl, imidazolyl, triazolyl, pyrrolyl, thiazolyl, N-oxido-pyridyl, benzyl, pyridylmethyl, thienylmethyl, furylmethyl, imidazolylmethyl, triazolylmethyl, pyrrolylmethyl, thiazolylmethyl and N-oxido-pyridylmethyl, optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from C₁₋₄alkyl, ~~halogen~~, -CF₃, -OH, C₁₋₃alkoxy, phenoxy and halogen; and--

Please replace the paragraph at page 9, lines 6-9 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--wherein R¹ is R⁹-CH₂-, wherein R⁹ is selected from benzyl, phenyl, pyridyl, thienyl, furyl, imidazolyl, pyrrolyl and thiazolyl, optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from C₁₋₄alkyl, ~~halogen~~, -CF₃, -OH, C₁₋₃alkoxy, phenoxy, and halogen; and--

Please replace the paragraph at page 9, lines 13-14 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--~~wherein~~ R¹ is R⁹-CH₂-, wherein R⁹ is selected from benzyl, phenyl, pyridyl, thienyl, furyl, imidazolyl, pyrrolyl and thiazolyl; and--

Please replace the paragraph at page 9, lines 18-21 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--R¹ is selected from C₃₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, and C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl, wherein said C₃₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, and C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from C₁₋₄alkyl, ~~halogen~~, -CF₃, -OH, C₁₋₃alkoxy, phenoxy, and halogen;--

Please replace the paragraph at page 9, lines 23-26 with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- R³ is -H, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, and C₃₋₆cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl, wherein said C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from C₁₋₄alkyl, ~~halogen~~, -CF₃, -OH, C₁₋₃alkoxy, phenoxy, and halogen.--

Please replace the paragraph at page 10, lines 5-11 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--R¹ is selected from R⁸-C(=O)-, R⁸-S(=O)₂-, R⁸-S(=O)-, R⁸-NHC(=O)-, R⁸-C(=S)- and R⁸-NH-C(=S)-, wherein R⁸ is selected from C₃₋₆alkyl, C₆₋₁₀aryl, C₂₋₆heteroaryl, C₆₋₁₀aryl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₆heteroaryl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, and C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl; wherein said C₃₋₆alkyl, C₆₋₁₀aryl, C₂₋₆heteroaryl, C₆₋₁₀aryl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₆heteroaryl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, and C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl are optionally substituted with C₁₋₄alkyl, ~~halogen~~, -CF₃, -OH, C₁₋₃alkoxy, phenoxy, and halogen;--

Please replace the paragraph at page 18, lines 7-12 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--R¹ is R⁹-CH₂-, wherein R⁹ is selected from phenyl, pyridyl, thienyl, furyl, imidazolyl, triazolyl, pyrrolyl, thiazolyl, N-oxido-pyridyl, benzyl, pyridylmethyl, thienylmethyl, furylmethyl, imidazolylmethyl, triazolylmethyl, pyrrolylmethyl, thiazolylmethyl and N-oxido-pyridylmethyl, optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from C₁₋₄alkyl, ~~halogen~~, -CF₃, -OH, C₁₋₃alkoxy, phenoxy and halogen;--

Please replace the paragraph at page 19, lines 10-14 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--R⁸ is selected from C₃₋₆alkyl, C₆₋₁₀aryl, C₂₋₆heteroaryl, C₆₋₁₀aryl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₆heteroaryl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, and C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl; wherein said C₃₋₆alkyl, C₆₋₁₀aryl, C₂₋₆heteroaryl, C₆₋₁₀aryl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₆heteroaryl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl, and C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl are optionally substituted with C₁₋₄alkyl, ~~halogen~~, -CF₃, -OH, C₁₋₃alkoxy, phenoxy, and halogen; and--

Please replace the paragraph at page 20, lines 12-16 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--R⁸ is selected from C₃₋₆alkyl, C₆₋₁₀aryl, C₂₋₆heteroaryl, C₆₋₁₀aryl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₆heteroaryl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, and C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl; wherein said C₃₋₆alkyl, C₆₋₁₀aryl, C₂₋₆heteroaryl, C₆₋₁₀aryl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₆heteroaryl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, and C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl are optionally substituted with C₁₋₄alkyl, halogen, -CF₃, -OH, C₁₋₃alkoxy, phenoxy, and halogen; and--